THE PRACE MISSION.

Meeting of Secretary Seward and Mosers. Stephen's, Hunter and Campbell on James River.

Recep'Aon of the Commaiss'oners by the Army.

Interesting Demonstrations of the Two Armies Before Richmond.

Expressions of Joy by the Soldiers at the Prespect of Peace.

Rebel Sketch of the Several Peace Negotiations Between the Two Belligerent Powers.

Rebel Sketches of the Commissioners.

Their Views Upon Reconstruction and Peace.

Facts, Rumors and Speculations at Washington Regarding the Peace Conference,

Our Special Washington Despatches. rish anticipation of the result of the pendi is exists among all classes. There are man erview between the President and the Stephen

As before stated, nething is authoritatively known of hat has transpired within the last twenty-four hours at Serires Monroe, and these reports are given for what they are worth, as straws which show the drift which

wents and opinions are taking.
It is satisfactory to know, that while the country is to attain it, military operations are not delayed or re-laxed; but, on the contrary, are being pushed forward insive than at any previous time during the war. Id peaceful means fail to secure peace, the army and

very few days which will gladden the heart of the na-Mon, and in any event hasten the final downfall of the sebellion, and the consequent restoration of peace and

Seff. Davis was in consultation with the President within our lines, it should be stated that a member of the Cabi-met, in reply to an inquiry upon the subject this eve-ming, replied that he would neither confirm nor contra-dict it, but that events would show whether they were

It is well known that Secretary Stanton has beretofore sebels on any basis other than an unconditional submis sion, but has had no faith in the possibility of ob ber of Congress, he conveyed the idea that there

The climax in the peace negotiations is at hand. Davis has made a temporary alliance with General Lee, but fears that the fight upon him (Davis) at Richmond will mined to agree upon terms at once to save himself.

President stated before he left, yesterday, that commissioners on the James river than if they were

ng closeted together within the next five days. Only one member of the Cabinet has been consul

The articles on peace in the Chronicle vesterday and to-day were prompted at headquarters. They are signi-

Mr. S. Cadwallader's Despatches.

Cirr Pourr, Feb. 1, 1865.
The rumors of a few days past that "peace commi mission to puss through our lines in front of Petersburg, and proceed to Washington, were confirmed at an early beur yesterday foreneon, by Lieutenant Colonel Babsack, of Lieutenant General Grant's staff, being specially perty to City Point. He proceeded to the front in the morning for that purpose; but owing to some informality, or misapprehension of the precise time at which our suthorities would be prepared to receive them, a tedious selar eneved, and the entire day was consumed in get-

thens. R. M. T. Hunter and John A. Campbell-arrived Petersburg on Sunday eveni. g, expecting to reach and hasten on their way to Washington. But Monday

e of some officials and the reticence of others be slow to believe it. The difficulties are many and ole, and the temper and spirit of neither section

contending armies—they were conducted through Military Railread, and from there to this place in a specie but nothing unbecoming the dignity of soldiers and gen City Point the cheering was loud and long continued, and

The news of their coming had gained a considerable circulation during the afternoon, and hundreds were standing about the depot when the train arrived at City Point. A road was finally cleared through the crowd

The rebel Assistant Agent of Exchange, Col. Hatch, ac companies "the commission" as secretary. One colored servant and four trunks constitute the travelling incum rances of the party.

The exciting topic of conversation everywhere is the

Major Ricketta, who arrived here last evening and had an interview with Mesers. Stephens, Hunter and Camp-bell, is probably bearer of some message, official or un-efficial, that will determine the future course to be pur-

River Queen, from Washington. He is supposed to be here for the purpose of meeting the rebel fing of truce was sent into our lines yesterday for the purpose of obtaining permission for Mr. Stevens and Robert Ould, Commissioner of Exchange, to pass through; but by some mistake the permission was not granted. ompany with Mr. Seward will proceed to Washington. Mr. Seward, since his arrival, has remained entirely

General Grant's flagboat, M. Martin, has just arrived

The River Queen, with Secretary Seward on board, is anchored a short distance from the wharf, and as I write he M. Martin is just coming alongside of her.

PEACE.

question. And yet within easy bearing of those who stile cannon and the "ph-whiz" of rebel small shot. It may be, though, that these peace rumors come as does the rainbow—while the rain is still falling and the

cers and men talk much and seriously, too, on the subenemy's country. Indeed, so strong is this feeling that much prepared as they ever will be to engage in the en-terprise.

FORTRESS MONROR, Feb. 2, 1865.

Messra. Alexander H. Stephens, R. M. T. Hunter and Judge Campbell, and other rebel peace commission ers, arrived here this afternoon, from City Point, in Lieutenant General Grant's special despatch steamer the

Queen, waiting to receive them.

Immediately upon the arrival of the commi

ana leaves for Baltimore, the steamers are still out in the

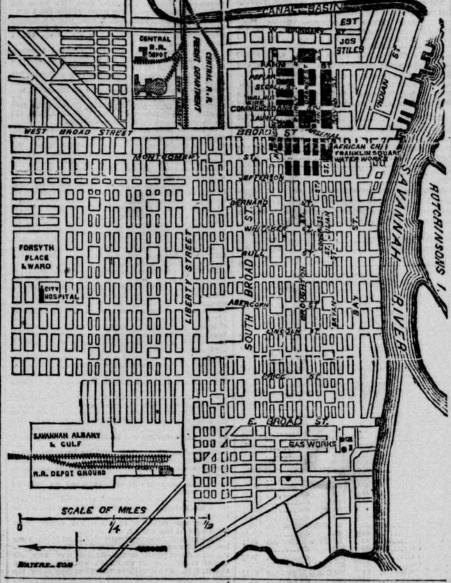
Peace.

[From the Washington Chronicle, Feb. 3.]

It is a fact that, whenever occasion offers, the two armies, Union and Confederate, fraternize with peculiar enthusiasm. Why is this? Is it not because they are of the same bittle fields? And is not this manifestation an exhibition of their mutual devotion to the old flag? Thus we find in the Richmond Servinel of the 31st of January, that "when Masses Stephens, Hunter and Campbell passed through our times on their way to Washington, the shouting along the lines was prolonged and enthusiastic." And again: "Once before the sociamations of the army were united. When they lay confronted at Fredericksburg, a fine military hand played, in succession, Tankee Doodle, 'Dirie' and other national airs. These were appropriately responded to by the two armies alternately; but when the band struck up 'Home, Sweet Home, the opposing camps forgot their hostilities and united in voiferous tribute to the common sentiment," And what is this common sentiment It is a common sentiment of remembrance and veneration for the glorious past. It is a common sentiment to be respected in this significant iour. Yesterday it was announced that the President of the United States had started for Fortress Monroe. The mere rumor caused a thrill in every leyel American heart. It suggested that, in his sovereign capacity, he had gone there for the purpose of concluding passe with the Confederate authori-

THE CONFLAGRATION IN SAVANNAH.

Scene of the Fire-Map Showing the Blocks Burned and the House Where the Fire Commenced, also the Rebel Arsenal and Water Works.



REBEL ACCOUNTS.

Sketch of the History of the Several Peace
Negotiations Between the Rebels and
the Administration.

[From the Richmond Whig, Jan. 31.]
The State of South Carolina, having resumed her independence Decomber 20, 1860, immediately thereafter despatched commissioners to Washington to adjust
all questions growing out of her membership of separation from the Union. They arrived at Washington December the 27th. The then President, Mr. Buchanan,
having acclined to receive them in their official capacity,
they withdrew from the federal capital January 14, 1861.

No further effort was made by any State or by the
Confederate States until the inauguration of the new
President, Abraham Lincoin, which event occurred the
4th of March, 1861, and on the following day, March
5, Messra. John Porsyth, Martin J. Crawford, and A. B.
Roman, commissioners of the Congress from the Confederate States, arrived at Washington. In a note to Mr.
Seward, dated March 12, they announced their arrival
and stated the objects of their mission as follows:—

With a view to a speedy adjustment of all questions grow-

seward, dated March 12, they announced their arrival and stated the objects of their mission as follows:—

With a riew to a speedy adjustment of all questions growing out of this political separation upon such terms of smily and good will as the respective interests geographical contiguity and future welfare of the two nations may render necessary, the undersigned are instructed to make to the government of the United States overtures for the opening of negotiations, assuring the government of the United States that the President, Congress and people of the Confederate States carrestly desire a peaceful solution of these great questions; that it is neither their interest nor their wish to make any demand which is not founded in strictest justice, nor to do any set to injure their late confederates.

The undersigned have now the henor, in obedience to the instructions of their government, to request you to appoint as early a day as possible in order that they may present to the Fresident of the United States the credentials which they bear, and the objects of the mission with which they are charged.

To this note Mr. Seward, on the 8th of April, sent a lengity reply, deted the 15th of March, the most material paragraph of which is subjoined:—

The Socretary of State frankly confesses that he understands the events which have recently occurred, and the condition of political affairs which actually exists in the part of the Union to which his attention has thus been directed, very differently from the aspect in which they are presented by Mesars. Forsyth and Crawford. He sees in them not a rightful and accomplished revolution and an independent nation, with an established government, but rather a perversion of a temporary and parties and constraints.

dition of political affairs which actually exists in the part of the Union to which has thenefon has thus been directed, very differently from the second has thus been directed, very differently from the second has thus been directed, very differently from the second has the sees in them not a rightful and accomplished revolution has them not a rightful and accomplished revolution as independent nation, with an established government, and a independent nation, with an established government and interest perversion of a temporary and partians excitement have a secretary agreeasion upon the rights and the authority vested in the federal government, and hitherto so benignly exercised, as from their very natures they always must be so exercised, for the maintenance of the Union, preservation of liberty and the security, peace, welfare, happiness and aggrandissement of the American people. The Secretary of flute, therefore, avows to Messers Forsyth and Crawford that he looks patiently but confidently for the cure of evils which have resulted from proceedings so unnecessary, so unwise, so unusual and so unnatural, not to irregular negotiations, having in view new and unitried relations with ageodes unknown to and acting is derogation of the constitution and isws, but to regular and considerate action of the people of those States, in co-operation with their brethren in the other States, through the Congress of the United States, and such extraordinary conventions, if there shall be need thereof, as the federal constitution contemplates and authorizes to be assembled.

Upon the receipt of this communication the commissioners immediately withdrew from the federal capital; and a hostile fleet having sailed from New York for Charleston, orders were given from Menigomery for the reduction of Fort Sumter, which were put in execution on the 12th and 13th of April.

From that time to the present it is not known that any formal efforts have been made to initiate negotiations, and absencical to the beliggerents, and Congress h

commissioned to go to washington, and left this city yesterday on that eriand.

SEETCHES OF THE PEACE COMMISSIONERS.

[From the Richmond Whig.]

JOHN A CAMPRELL.

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JOHN AFORD A COUNTY, Gergia, in June, 1812. He graduated at the University of Athens at an early age. He afterward entered as a cadet in the Military Academy of West Point, completing three years at that institution. The decease of his father induced him to resign his commission and return to his native State with a view of pursuing the profession of law.

He commenced the practice of his profession in Montgomery, Alabama. While residing there he served in the Legislature during a year of much local agitation. In 1837 he removed to Mobile, and continued with the greatest success his profession, serving but one term again in the legislative councles, and only accepting political office when forced upon him. In 1853, the first year of the administration of President Picroe, he was appointed Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. At the breaking out of hostilities he retired from that position to abide the action of his native State. For a month after the election of Mr. Lincoln he was actively engaged in endeavoring to avert the war then threatening the two sections.

after the election of Mr. Lincoln he was actively engaged in endeavoring to avert the war then threatening the two sections.

He was in Washington in March, 1861, when Messra Forsyth, Crawford and Roman, Commissioners from the Confederate States, endeavored to have an official interview with Lincoln and Seward. "He was a Union man until the policy of the administration rendered Unionism in the South impossible." When informed by Seward of the demand of the commissioners for recognition be offered to write to President Davis and ask him to "restrain his commissioners." Seward authorized him to communicate the fact of the intended evacuation of Fort Sumer to Mr. Davis, but having some doubts of the sincerity of this notice, he conferred with Judge Nelson, at whose suggestion and by whose counsel "he agreed to be the intermediary until Sumter was evacuated." In his last interview with Seward on this question, he was led to believe that the "government would not undertake to supply Sumter without giving notice to Governor Pickens." We now quote his own words (from a letter to Wm. B. Reed, Esq., of Pennsylvania, dated August 14, 1862):—

Win. B. Reed, Esq., of Pennsylvania, dated August 14, 1862):—
This excluded the matter of degire and, with what had taken place, left the impression that if any stiempt were made it would be an open, declared and peaceful offer to supply the fort, which, being resisted by the Carolinians, the fort would be abandoned as a military necessity and to spare the effusion of blood—the edium of resistance and of the evacuation being thrown upon the late administration and the Confederate States. Had these counsels prevailed—had the policy been marked with candor and moderation—I am not sure that even before this the fruit might have been seen ripening among the Statas in renewed relations of kindness and good will, to be followed ere long by a suitable political and civil union, adequate to the security of both sections at home and abroad. The ideas of Union and a common country, as applied to all the States, are now simply obsolets.

For several months past Judge Campbell has been occupying the position of Assistant Secretary of War of the Confederate States, and it is but sheer justice to remark, in this connection, that no executive officer nor employe of the government has applied himself more assidiously to his duties than this venerable man. He was at his office every night until a late hour, examing and endorsing the papers submitted to him for investigation.

honor and the rights of Virginia and her sister States of the outh.

At this session Mr. Hunter delivered an elaborate speech against the proposition to suspend diplomatic re-lations with Austria upon the ground of the wrongs

parture from the policy marked out by Washington and Madison.

At the session of 1850-51 Mr. Hunter was made chairman of the Finance Committee of the Senate, which he retained as long as he occupied his seat. In 1852 he delivered an address in Richmond, tracing the history of parties from the foundation of the government, and urging the soundness of the States rights school, with which he had always been associated.

During his second term in the Senate Mr. Huster supported the Kansas-Nebraskas bill and Douglas' amendment thereto. He was a vigorous opponent of the American or "Know Nothing" party. At the session of 1857-58 he advocated the admission of Kansas into the Union with the Lecompton constitution, and was a member of the committee of conference which reported the proposition commonly called the "English bill," which was finally adopted by Confgress.

It is acarcily necessary to revert to the part taken by Mr. Hunter high the proceedings of the session of 1800-61. After the election of Lincoln he clearly foresaw that the republicans were determined to override the "outh, and, though countennating as far as he consistently could the efforts which were made to prevent a collision between the two sections, we do bt not that he felt relieved when the secession of Virginia authorized him to vacate his seat in the *cenate.

Mr. Hunter was the first representative of the Pro-

him President pro tem. of that body—a position which he still holds.

Alexander Hamilton Stopiens was born in Taliaferro county, Georgia, February 11, 1812. He was left an orphan at the age of fourteen, when kind friends, unsolicited, furnished him with the means to obtain an education, all of which he arbequently returned with interest. He prepared himself for college in nine months, and graduated at Franklin College in 1832. He studied law, and was admitted to practice in 1835.

In 1836 he was elected to the lower house of the State Legislature, where he served five years, deveting himself especially to the internal interests of his native State.

In 1839 he was chosen a delegate to the commercial convention at Charleston, where he made a deep impression by his peculiar eloquence.

In 1842 he was elected to the Senate of his State, and if 1843 was elected as Representative in Congress from Georgia, to which position he was regularly returned, until impaired health compelled him to decline a reelection. Mr. Stephens was a prominent leader of the whig party in Georgia until the nomination of General Scott for the Presidency. He then supported the measures and candidates of the democratic party.

In March, 1854, the Senate bill organizing the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska, having passed the Senate, with a clause repealing the "Miscouri compromise," was communicated to the House of Representatives, where, after a long debate, it was amended on the 22d of hisp by the substitution of the House bill, which was the same as the Senate bill, emitting the prohibition of "allen suffrage," known as the "Chayton amendment." The bill as amended was passed—yeas 113, nays 100. Mr. Stephens' record shows that he added by his influence and familiarity with parliamentary law in contributing to this result. The Senate concurred in the amendment of the House, and thus the repeal of the Missouri compromise was consummated. The exitament and agitation thereby engendered led to the organization of the black republican party.

Mr

THOMAS.

Our Eastport (Miss.) Correspondence. EASTPORT, Miss., Jan. 24, 1865.

Deserters continue to come into our lines, and, if the They report a shortness of provisions, and look in a de-plorable state. Inhabitants of this and adjoining county guerilla bands, who are overrunning this neighborhood.

ville that they will hall with pleasure the order to march many already in their possession here. The First division of General Smith's corps, under command of Brigadie General McArthur, have, at the Assistant Adjutant Gen eral's quarters, (Captain Randall), nearly half the flags tha were taken near Nashville. They also captured mor prisoners and guns than any other division in the first day's fight.

Our Gravelly Springs (Ala.) Correspond

HEADQUARTERS, CAVALRY CORPS, GRAVELLY SPRINGS, Ala., Jan. 25, 1865. The cavalry stationed here, under command of Briga dier General Wilson, form an imposing sight, being picketed on the various hillsides, and, as the name of the place indicates, having fine roads and good water.

Gravelly Springs is fourteen miles from Eastport, up the Tennessee river. It has few inhabitants and but few fallen considerably, the steamboats are now discharging the most of their supplies at a landing five miles below.

8r. Louis, Feb. 8, 1865

General Chalmers, in a speech at Corinth, in the early part of January accused General Hood of selling him out, expressed the opinion that the confederacy had gone under; told his men they could do as they pleased, he should have nothing more to do with them, but should

It is also stated that the rebel General Morrow sent message to a personal friend in the Union army, stating that he had lost all faith in the rebel leaders and wished to surrender himself to the Union commander. He is now waiting near Corinth to ascertain what terms can be

The noted General Roddy is also said to have applied for pardon.

Release of the Crew of the Florida.

Borrow, Feb. 8, 1865.

The crew of the rebel steamer Florida, which was captured in the harbor of Bahia by the United States steamer Wachusett, have been liberated by order of the government. They numbered about thirty. They were taken from Fort Warren in a tug and placed on board the British steamer Canada, which sailed from this port last Wednesday for Halifax.

Int Wednesday for Halifax.

The Missouri State Convention.

Sr. Lous, Feb. 3, 1865.

A resolution passed the State Senate yesterday almost unanimously directing the Judiciary Committee to invention to revise the constitution and make a fundamental law embracing only the general principles applicable to all times and conditions. The resolution was prefaced with a preamble declaring that the present Convention does not appear to answer the expectations of the loyal people of the State, that the delegates are wasting time in fruitless debatos, and are considering questions for which the public mend is not prepared.

The Convention yesterday and to-day was mainly occupied in discussing the motion to strike out the words "white maie" in the section of the constitution defining the qualification for Governor.

Indian Depredations at Julesburg.

Br. Loun, Feb. 3, 1865.

A despatch from Omaka 2 says, that a large number Indians have been hovering around Julesburg sever days; but the garrison is too small to attack then They attacked the fort, burned the telegraph office as Stage Company's warehouse, containing a large amound of corn, hay and provisions. The station, consisting several buildings, were reduced to ashes. A considerable amount of telegraph supplies were also destroyed an entire train was captured west of Fort Laramie will in a week. One man was killed. The telegraph bett down, the particulars of the attack on the fort at Jule burg are not get known.

FORT FISHER

Arrival and Departure of General

CONFLAGRATIONS IN WILMINGTON.

The Rebel Defences on Cape Fear

Mr. Thomas M. Cook's Despatch.

The arrival of Lieutenant General Grant, at a late hour

on Saturday evening, created a slight diversion from the General Grant was accompanied by Mrs. Grant, General Assistant Secretary Fox, of the Navy, on the naval on Saturday evening. The party immediately re-paired on board the flagship Malvern, where they also sent for and went on board the Malvern, where renewed personally his compliments and congrat to the distinguished heroes of Fort Fisher.

The nature of the interview that followed, or its results, are, of course, not matters for public speculation. Secretary Fox and General Barnard, as well as General Grant, admitted their surprise at the achievement that had been wrought here. Their wonder was only heightened by the hasty and necessarily unsatisfactory view of the works that could be obtained at night. The distinguished party, with the exception of General Barnard, left at midnight on their return. It was a matter of regret that the demands on the time and attention of the Lieutenant General were so urgent as to forbid his tarrying here long enough to make a survey of the captured works by daylight. Both he and Secretary Fox went away more fully satisfied than ever with what had been a complished.

The cold weather that has prevalled for the past fortingth at the North has reached this latitude to a sufficient extent to form a thin crust of ire on the CapelFear,

rience of one of the editors of that paper?

Since the troops composing this expedition left the
James river they have been without mails. Feveral
efforts have been made to procure the mails so long overdue, but, although we are but thirty-six hours sail from
Portress Monroe, nothing is yet forthcoming. There certainly most be remissness somewhere. Can anybody tell
where the blame lies?

RICHMOND.

Mr. Theodore C. Wilson's Despatch. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Jun. 30, 1866.

PROMOTIONS IN THE TENTH NEW YORK CAVALRY This regiment, having been re-ruited up to the maximum standard, Lieutenant Colonel M. H. Avery was a few days ago mustered in as Colonel, vice Colonel William Irvine promoted to Adjutant General of the State of New York. Captain and Assistant Adjutant General F. L. Tremain has been promoted to fill the vacancy of Lieu-tenant Colonel. Captains M. H. Blinn and W. A. Snyder Shaver has been promoted to Adjutant of the regiment. Other changes have been made as follows:—Lieutenan Lieutenant Perry, promoted to captain of Company A Lieutenant G. D. Brinkeroff, captain Company B; tenant E. Hartwell, captain Company C; Lieutenant C. E Pratt, captain Company H; Lieutenant J. J. Van Tuyl,

Arrival of Some of Mosby's Gang as Pri-

soners at Baltimore. The eight o'clock train last evening from Harper's The eight o'clock train last evening from Harper's Eerry brought up one hondred and ten rebel prisoners, who were landed at the Relay and thence sent by special train to Washington. They belonged to Mosby's gang, and were captured during a recent raid by that redoubtable horse thied upon our lines in the Shensadosh Valley while Gen. Sheridan was absent on a reconsolusance, They thought to catch our men napping. All of the prisoners are in wretched condition, and nearly a dozen were so terribly frost bitten about the feet and legs that they sould scarcely walk. These "Johnnies" may they are tired and sick of the war and are glad to get out of it even as prisoners.

News from New Orleans and Caire. Caire, Feb. 3, 1868. The steamer Henry Ames brings New Orleans dates to

The steamer starty that the 28th of the 28

New York 3c.

The Ohio river is full of ice, rising slowly. Yesterday

1,256 bales of cotton arrived here, mentir for Chainsall.